

**RESOLUTION ON HONORING 2020 WILLIAM H. RUFFNER MEDAL RECIPIENT
MICHAEL J. QUILLEN '70**

WHEREAS, Virginia Tech is very proud to recognize among its most esteemed alumni, Mr. Michael J. Quillen, a member of the class of 1970, who received his bachelor of science and master's degrees in Civil Engineering from Virginia Tech, and has been a loyal and enthusiastic volunteer and supporter of the university; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Quillen has garnered professional prestige throughout his long and distinguished career in the mining industry, serving in executive leadership roles in several coal companies, most notably standing at the helm of Alpha Natural Resources in Abingdon, VA, retiring as Chairman of the Board, valuing the influence of Virginia Tech in his life with its emphasis on the ideals of leadership, loyalty, service and Ut Prosim – *That I Might Serve*; and

WHEREAS, Michael Quillen has had an extensive tenure of service and continued engagement at Virginia Tech, serving two terms on the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors, including two years as Rector; serving as a Director on the Virginia Tech Foundation Board and its Executive and Development Committees; being an avid participant on the College of Engineering's Advisory Committee; the College of Engineering's Committee of 100; and supporting the university's historical and exceptional fundraising effort as a member of the most recent and current campaign steering committees for the Campaign for Virginia Tech: Invent the Future and the Boundless Impact Campaign; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Quillen was inducted into the William Preston Society in 2018 for his service to the Board of Visitors and was an inductee of the 2013 class of the Academy of Engineering Excellence, a noteworthy distinction among our vast and extraordinary alumni base, in addition to gaining the exceptional recognition as the 2011 Virginia Business Person of the Year by Virginia Business Magazine and making his alma mater proud; and

WHEREAS, Mike Quillen's many years of active participation in the university community have inspired his desire to create a wide variety of educational opportunities for Virginia Tech students while promoting his core values of service and hard work, through his support of the College of Engineering, Intercollegiate Athletics, and many other university initiatives; and

WHEREAS, Mike Quillen is an inspirational example of how a meaningful life is achieved not only through personal success, but also in service to others, consistently providing volunteer leadership and philanthropic support across the breadth of the university; and

WHEREAS, the extraordinary generosity of Mr. Quillen has allowed him and his wife, Deborah, to be recognized as members of the Ut Prosim Society at the President's Circle level, the university's most prestigious donor recognition society;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that in recognition of Mr. Quillen's many years of leadership and notable service to the university and to his community and marking 50 years since his graduation from the university, the Board of Visitors of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University confers upon Michael J. Quillen, its highest award, the 2020 William H. Ruffner Medal.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the resolution conferring the 2020 William H. Ruffner Medal to Michael J. Quillen be approved.

May 6, 2020